

Funding, new legislation and proposed legislation for veterans is the topic of two Veteran Advisory Sessions hosted by Congresswoman Debbie Halvorson (IL-11) on Friday, May 29 in Joliet and Coal City. The sessions for interested members of the community are part of Halvorson's Memorial Day tribute to veterans throughout the week.

"There are so many good things happening for our veterans... their issues are finally getting the attention they deserve," said Halvorson, who is the only U.S. Representative from the State Illinois that sits on the House Veterans Committee. "These informational sessions offer great information, not only for veterans, but for individuals and organizations who work with them."

An overview of veterans topics include:

- Veterans funding for health care in 2010 budget
- Veterans funding and capital projects through ARRA
- Economic stimulus payments for disabled veterans
- New Post 911 Webb-Mitchell GI Bill for education assistance
- Disabled Veterans' Health Care Fairness Act
- Thoughts on female veteran issues
- Veterans Corps Program
- Helping Families Save Their Homes Act
- Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program Reauthorization Act of 2009
- Veterans Employment Rights Realignment Act of 2009

The first session on Friday will be from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the 11th District Office, 116 N. Chicago St. in Joliet. The second is scheduled from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the community room at Centru Bank Community, 660 S Broadway in Coal City.

For more information, contact 11th District veteran affairs liaison Julia Talamonti at 815-726-4998.